

THULE TIMES

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December 1, 2003

Serving Thanksgiving

Photo by 1st Lt. Jeremy Eggers

Col. Thomas Walker, 821st Air Base Group commander, Capt. Jeff Thomas, acting 821st Support Squadron commander, and Master Sgt. Charles McLaurin, 821st SPTS, serve Thanksgiving dinner to Team Thule Thursday in the Dundas Dining Facility. It's a Thule tradition for commanders and other members of the base leadership to serve the Thanksgiving meal working in half-hour shifts throughout the evening. Many thanks go out to all members of the Dundas Dining Hall staff for putting together a fantastic holiday meal.



12 SWS tracks rocket launch, re-entry

By Master Sgt. Ramon Duron III
1st Space Control Squadron

CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN AIR FORCE STATION, Colo.—The Oct. 30 launch of the Japanese SERVIS-1 satellite was the focus of operations for the 1st Space Control Squadron at Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station, Colo.

The 1st SPCS operates the Space Control Center as part of the Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center. The 1st SPCS mission is to detect, track, and identify all man-made objects launched into space.

The launch was a challenge to the SCC for two reasons:

- it was a non-historic launch for this satellite, and
- the SCC is the primary agency to build and provide accurate element set data to the entire

Space Surveillance Network upon initial launch and detect from the sensor network. Furthermore, another SCC mission is to provide re-entry assessment prediction data to national and international agencies as a “heads up” notification of objects re-entering the earth's atmosphere.

Initial launch and orbital observation data from the SSN enabled the SCC to predict the re-entry of the SL-19 rocket body over the western coast of Greenland.

Amazingly, the 12th Space Warning Squadron at Thule Air Base, Greenland was at the front line of this launch and all events, which proceeded afterward. Initially, the 12th SWS was tasked to provide space track data as part of new foreign launch processing for the SCC. Metric observation data received by three phased arrayed radars at Thule;

Clear AFS, Alaska; and RAF Fylingdales, United Kingdom, further assisted the SCC to produce and publish the first element set for the SERVIS-1 satellite.

As the SCC continued metric data collection from the SSN, they were able to determine the re-entry assessment prediction for SL-19 rocket body. It's rare for a radar sensor to be involved in every phase of the new foreign launch process. However, for Maj. Michael Gresham, Capt. Dominick Young, and Staff Sgt. Michael Saint Romain, the 12 SWS crew on duty, they were at the top of their game when they once again provided re-entry assessment data to the SCC for final confirmation of the SL-19 rocket body 105 nautical miles off the coast of Greenland. What made this event even more interesting for the

“12 SWS” continued on Page 8

Thule's cable television rivals many

Team Thule is privileged to have a variety of cable television programming even at our isolated and remote location. This is not true for many other overseas locations. Live broadcast through CANCOM brings us all of the major stateside networks, i.e. CBS, ABC, NBC, and FOX, in addition to United States Armed Forces Network whose broadcasts keep us abreast of military news from around the world and provide us 24-hour sports & news programming channels.

In addition to our stateside broadcasts, we receive one Greenlandic and two Danish television channels. Channel 2 airs Greenland Contractors public service announcements in Danish and Greenlandic. Channel 3, Kalaallit Nunaata Radio (Radio Greenland), is an independent station based in Nuuk, Greenland's capital, and broadcasts television throughout Greenland. KNR TV broadcasts about 300 hours of Greenlandic, and about 2,000 hours of Danish programs per year. Channel 25 broadcasts Danish

movies that are aired locally and are made possible by GC's welfare fund.

Because Thule AB does not have a movie theatre, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service provides Team Thule with movies before they are normally available on video or DVD. The Channel 17 Movie Schedule highlights upcoming AAFES movies in blue text.

The 821st Services Flight supplements AAFES movies with nonappropriated funds purchased movies. Services also provides NAF contract movie operators and NAF technicians to maintain the video equipment.

A master movie inventory is maintained on Prancer/Public/Services/Movie Channel Request List for those with U.S. local area network access, or through a hard copy disseminated to the Community Center and the North Star Inn.

Interested individuals may request movies to be shown by calling ext. 7888. Every effort will be made to air movie requests within 48 hours.

The Services Flight master movie listing and Channel 17 movie schedules reflect movie ratings. This is in an effort to inform viewers of the movie's content. The ratings will denote potentially offense content including violence, language, and/or sexual content/nudity. Advertising movie ratings will allow you to make a better choice when selecting a movie based on your preference.

Additionally, Channel 18 will be dedicated to broadcasting only Parental Guidance (PG) or General (G) rated movies. This is analogous to the movies in Denmark that are "not rated" since they are suitable for viewing by people of any age.

Please bear with us while we try and improve our "quality of life" programs, and as always, we solicit your feedback.

For more information regarding locally aired movies and music videos call Mitchell Hebert, Services Director, ext. 2445, or Tech. Sgt. Chris Ramos, Cable TV QAE, ext. 2535 for music radio.

Channel Guide

Television

Ch.2 Danish Information
Ch.3 Greenlandic TV - KNR
Ch.4 Commander's Information
Ch.5 Thule Discovery
Ch.6 WDIV - Detroit (NBC)
Ch.7 WXYZ - Detroit (ABC)
Ch.8 WBZ - Boston (CBS)
Ch.9 WGBH - Boston (PBS)
Ch.10 WUHF - Rochester (FOX)
Ch.11 KARE - Minneapolis (NBC)
Ch.12 FOX - Wild feed
Ch.13 AFN Guide/Contingency
Ch.14 WCCO - Minneapolis (CBS)
Ch.15 AFN Sports
Ch.16 Services Info

Ch.17 Services Movie Guide
Ch.18 Services Movies
Ch.19 Services Movies
Ch.20 Services Movies
Ch.21 Services Movies
Ch.22 Services Movies
Ch.23 Services Movies
Ch.24 Services Music Videos
Ch.25 Danish Movies
Ch.26 Base Weather
Ch.27 AFN Pacific
Ch.28 AFN Spectrum
Ch.29 AFN Atlantic
Ch.30 AFN News
Ch.31 Wild feed

Radio

Ch.40 Radio - Z Rock
Ch.42 Radio - Hot AC
Ch.44 Radio - Pure Gold
Ch.46 Radio - Country
Ch.48 Radio - The Touch
Ch.50 Radio - Bright AC
Ch.52 Radio - NPR
Ch.54 Radio - Adult Rock

Schedules available on Web

Armed Forces Network (TV)
<http://www.myafn.net/tv/schedule/>
Armed Forces Network (Radio)
<http://www.myafn.net/radio/>
National Public Radio
<http://www.npr.org/worldwide/afrtsschedule.html>



Photos by 1st Lt. Jeremy Eggers

Mette Linnemann, recreation services supervisor, watches on as Community Center patrons participate in a bow-making contest Sunday. Christmas craft activities are ongoing at the Community Center on Sundays throughout December.



community center

The Community Center is offering Christmas activities, such as making ornaments and Christmas cards, Dec. 7, 14, and 21 from 1-5 p.m. in the Community Center main room. The activities are free and refreshments are provided.

Other scheduled activities include a billiards tournament Dec. 20, as well as movies every Thursday and Sunday beginning at 7 p.m. The Community Center is open Monday-Friday from 2-10 p.m. and Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; closed on Wednesdays.

For information, call 3171.



Making macaroni ornaments was popular during the craft event Sunday.



Lars Staal works with Henrik Juhl on some Christmas Postcards.



Jensine Stenfors Vinther works on a macaroni Christmas ornament at the Community Center Sunday. About 50 people participated in the Community Center's Christmas craft activities. Watch Ch.16 for upcoming event information.

**Clueless? Don't have time to watch Ch.16 to figure out what's happening at Thule?
ACCESS THE THULE BASE CALENDAR ON YOUR E-MAIL
For more information, call Staff Sgt. Venessa Hernandez at 3415.**

Julemand fundraiser a great success

Thule AB hosted the Julemand Festival to benefit the children of Northwest Greenland Nov. 15. We had a great turnout and due to tremendous volunteer support, we were able to offer a number of fundraising activities to include Jail and Bail, Tattoo Booth, Pie in the Face, auction, lottery, and food/drink booths. As a result of your generous contributions, the festival raised about \$U.S. 6,000! Again, I want to thank everyone for their support to this worthwhile cause. At the end of December, the Danish Liaison Office will provide us with the amount raised for the entire year. Remember, 'It's all about the kids'.

Very Respectively and Tusind Tak,

Lt. Col. Hugh Amundson
821st Air Base Group Deputy Commander



Photos by Lars Lilja Petersen

Above: Master Sgt. Scott Brisson, 821st Support Squadron, auctions off pies for the "Pie in the Face" fundraiser for Operation Julemand Nov. 15. Left: Staff Sgt. Courtney Gibson and Master Sgt. Corey Hewitt, both 821st Air Base Group, experience 30 minutes in jail during the "Jail and Bail" fundraiser for Julemand. Below, artists painted pictures and sold them in order to raise money. Operation Julemand, Danish for "Christmas Man", i.e. Santa Claus, is an ongoing program to raise money to buy gifts for children living in Northern Greenland. Money raised during Operation Julemand also supports a Youth Center in Qaanaaq. For more information, call the DLO at 2612.



Thule's First Night

Photo by Lars Lilja Petersen

Most all members of "Team Thule" gathered at Hangar 7 Nov. 1 to celebrate the beginning of Thule's dark season. The night featured a full buffet line and live entertainment, to include bands from the United States, Denmark, and Greenland.

Plans are now in the works for Thule's First Light Festival, scheduled for Feb. 21, 2004.



Travelers may donate airline miles to Operation Hero Miles

By K.L. Vantran

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN)—Operation Hero Miles allows travelers to donate frequent-flier miles to help servicemembers on leave from Iraq reach their destinations.

Servicemembers participating in the two-week "rest and recuperation" leave program are flown free to airports at Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany; Atlanta; Baltimore; and Dallas, but must pay for connecting flights from and back to those ports.

Launched by Maryland Congressman C.A. "Dutch" Ruppersberger, whose district includes Baltimore/Washington International Airport, the Hero Miles Web site (<http://www.heromiles.org/>) lists participating airlines. It also provides information on how to donate frequent-flier miles and how servicemembers can receive complimentary tickets.

"I am getting a phenomenal response to Operation Hero Miles," Ruppersberger said. "So many Americans want to donate their frequent-flier miles to help our men and women in uniform in Iraq so (servicemembers) can spend quality time with their family and friends here at home."

According to the operation's Web site, more than 60 million miles have been donated so far.

Forms W-2 soon available on myPay

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFPN)—Defense Finance and Accounting Service officials have compiled a schedule of dates when servicemembers, military retirees and annuitants and defense civilian employees can access their tax statements through myPay.

Military members and Department of Defense civilian employees will have access to view, save and print their tax statements from myPay at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>. For assistance, users can call myPay customer support at (800) 390-2348.

MyPay provides a secure method for users to manage their pay account information, officials said. Available around the clock, customers can make changes online, instead of visiting a finance office.

Officials are projecting the tax statements will be posted on myPay during the following periods.

- Military annuitants: Dec. 13 to 18
- DOD civilians: Dec. 24 to 29
- Army, Air Force and Navy reserve components: Dec. 26 to Jan. 1
- Military retirees: Jan. 1 to 5
- Marine Corps active duty and Reserve: Jan. 13 to 21
- Army, Air Force and Navy active duty: Jan. 16 to 26

"During 2003, more than 1.2 million users viewed their tax statements on myPay, and we continue to encourage users to view and print their statements online," said Pat Shine, director of DFAS' military and civilian pay services business line. "Timely access to W-2s and other tax statements is another way myPay gives users control of their pay information."

Enlisted AFIT nominations due

WASHINGTON (AFPN)—Air Force Institute of Technology officials are again offering noncommissioned officers the opportunity to pursue an advanced science, engineering or management degree at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Eight NCOs from around the Air Force will be selected in early 2004 to attend the Enlisted-to-AFIT program. The program is designed to provide commanders with a diverse and renewable source of highly proficient and educated career NCOs, said Chief Master Sgt. Robert Hale, chief of Air Force enlisted professional military education at the Pentagon. Nominations are due to the Pentagon by Jan. 5.

The opportunity to attend AFIT is a direct reflection on the increasing role enlisted airmen will be expected to play in future operations, said Lt. Gen. Richard E. "Tex" Brown III, deputy chief of staff for personnel at the Pentagon.

"This advanced degree opportunity will further develop our NCOs' highly technical education and skills, leading to greater innovation and improved readiness," Brown said. "In conjunction with other professional training and education programs, it will help give our commanders the tools they need to get the mission done."

People interested in applying for the 18-month program must be at least a technical sergeant with a minimum of eight years time in service, 12 months time on station and have three years retainability upon graduation. They must have completed the appropriate skill-level upgrade and resident

professional military education schooling for their rank, officials said.

Applicants must also possess a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university, Hale said.

Besides academic transcripts, applicants have to provide test scores from either the Graduate Record Examination or Graduate Management Admission Test, depending upon the specific AFIT degree-program requirements.

Although not everyone can participate in this program, Hale said he strongly encourages enlisted airmen not to give up on pursuing advanced education.

"There are many opportunities available for enlisted (airmen) to continue their education, and they should take advantage of them all," he said. "By becoming experts in our career fields, our contributions become more significant, and it enhances the professionalism of the enlisted corps as well."

AFIT is the Air Force's graduate school of engineering and management and its institution for technical professional continuing education. Since residence degrees were first granted in 1956, more than 15,000 graduate and 300 doctorate of philosophy degrees have been awarded.

Prospective students can review program requirements and nomination procedures on the Air Force Virtual Education Center Web site at <https://afvec.langley.af.mil/afvec/>. They can also e-mail Hale at robert.hale@pentagon.af.mil for more information.

Air Force Commissioning Programs

● **The Airman Education and Commissioning Program** -- offers active duty enlisted members the opportunity to earn a commission while completing their bachelor's degree in specific technical and non-technical fields, such as Meteorology, Nursing, Foreign Languages, Foreign Area Studies, Mathematics, Physics, Computer Science and more.

● **The Airman Scholarship and Commissioning Program** -- offers active duty enlisted members the opportunity to earn a commission while completing their bachelor's degree as an Air Force ROTC cadet.

● **Officer Training School** -- prospective applicants must have already completed a bachelor's degree or be within 270 days of completing their degree to apply.

● **Leaders Encouraging Airmen Development (LEAD)** -- Airmen who wish to participate in this sponsorship program must be chosen by their unit commander. LEAD participants will have the opportunity to earn their degree through the Air Force Academy before being commissioned.

● **U.S. Air Force Academy** -- Air Force Academy cadets must be between the ages of 17 and 23 by July 1 of the year they enter the academy. Age limits are set by public law (title 10) and cannot be waived.

**Want to make a difference
at Team Thule?**

**Volunteer for the Thule Air
Base Color Guard!**

**For more info., call Tech.
Sgt. Chris Ramos at 2535.**



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Sonya
Horn at
2535 or
SrA Jeff
Pack at
2680.**





The Fitness and Sports Center is open 24 hours a day, offering the following

activities throughout the week:

Mon:	5-7 p.m.	Badminton
	7-8:30 p.m.	Soccer
	8:30-10 p.m.	Floor Hockey
Tues:	5-7 p.m.	Badminton
	7-10 p.m.	Basketball
Wed:	5-7 p.m.	Badminton
	7-8:30 p.m.	Floor Hockey
	8:30-10 p.m.	Soccer
Thurs:	5-7 p.m.	Badminton
	7-10 p.m.	Basketball
Fri:	8-10 p.m.	Tennis
Sat:	1-4 p.m.	Basketball
	6-8 p.m.	Rollerblading
Sun:	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Floor Hockey
	1-4 p.m.	Volleyball
	6-8 p.m.	Tennis

For more information, call 2519.



Thule's Bowling Alley is open Tues-Fri. from 3:30-10:30 p.m. and Sat. and Sun. from 10:30 a.m.-

9:30 p.m.; closed Mondays. The following activities are ongoing:

Tues: 7:15-10:15 p.m. is league bowling.

Wed: Open bowling during operating hours (non-smoking).

Thurs: 7:15-10:15 p.m. is league bowling.

Fri: Red Pin Bowling during operating hours (win free games).

Sat: Half-price bowling during operating hours (non-smoking).

Sun: Open bowling during operating hours.

Special events are also ongoing at the Bowling Alley and are open to all at Thule. The schedule for special events is as follows:

Dec. 14 at 1 p.m. is Scotch Doubles Tournament.

Dec. 7 and 21 at 1 p.m. is King/Queen of the Hill.

Dec. 27 at 4 p.m. is Cosmic Bowling.

For more information about upcoming events, call 2435.

Cardio climbing



Photo by 1st Lt. Jeremy Eggers

Staff Sgt. Brad Williams, 821st Support Squadron, tests out Thule's new "Treadwall," a treadmill for simulating rock climbing, during a dedication event Nov. 29. The new Treadwall was purchased using money earned from the ATWIND program, designed to increase participation in Air Force services programs. In 2003, Thule showed a significant increase in participation and won \$5,000 in ATWIND quality of life monies.



The Skills Development Center is open Mon., Wed.-Fri. from 4-10 p.m. and Sat. and Sun.

from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. The following instructional classes are being offered in December:

Dec. 6 & 7 from 12-1 p.m.—Digital Photo Shop.

Dec. 13 & 14 from 12-1 p.m.—

Wood Shop.

Dec. 20 & 21 from 12-1 p.m.—

Ceramic Shop.

Dec. 27 & 28 from 12-1 p.m.—

Xpress Shop.

For more information, call 2228.



The Thule Library is open Mon.-Tue., Thur.-Fri. from 2-10 p.m. and Sat., Sun., and holidays 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Call 2539 for information.

Final flight

Photo by 1st Lt. Jeremy Eggers
Robert Lestander, a pilot with Scandinavian Air Service, points to Thule Air Base on a map of the globe at base operations. The pilot made his final flight to Thule Nov. 26, but more significant was his return flight to Copenhagen—his last in a 30+ year career with SAS and the Royal Danish Air Force. “I’ve been all over the globe,” the pilot said, pointing to places from Brazil to the Middle East, Thule to China. Few pilots with SAS have the special qualification necessary to fly in and out of Thule, which Lestander had been doing for some three years. Team Thule salutes you for your service!



“12 SWS”—continued from Page 1

crew were the numerous visual reports from the local Inuit population that live in nearby villages close to Thule Air Base. Many there witnessed firsthand

the SL-19 re-entry as it streaked across the twilight of the Greenland sky.

The 21st Space Wing is at the “Tip of the Spear” of the Missile Warning and Space Control mission of 14th Air Force and Air Force Space Command.

This launch and re-entry assessment prediction showed the professional dedication of our crews at the 1st Space Control Squadron, 12th Space Warning Squadron, and the entire 21st Space Wing.

Around the EAF

Photo by Staff Sgt. Suzanne Jenkins
BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq—A C-5 Galaxy sits on the ramp here Nov. 27. The runway is large enough to allow the 270,000-pound aircraft to use the airfield, which reduces the base's dependence on ground-vehicle convoys for supplies.



The Lighter Side of Thule

Photo by 1st Lt. Jeremy Eggers

Capt. Kel "Trigger" Hannum takes the first step in reliving his college punk rocker days. Actually, the host of the Thursday night radio show, "The Chrome Shop," challenged all at Team Thule to make donations to Operation Julemand—in turn, the person donating most would have the honor of shaving his noggin. Staff Sgt. Erin Zeitler took the honor, and all Kel's hair, during a radio show Nov. 16. The buzz cut raised \$50 for operation Julemand.



Photo by Stephen Goudy

Have you seen this man? Having been away from Thule for over a month now, many are wondering whether or not Lt. Col. "Dingo" Doayne took his new space helmet "to infinity and beyond!"

Recently worn a pumpkin as a helmet or shaved your head? Did you just arrive at Thule Air Base? Let folks at home know about it! Fill out a Hometown News Release—stop by Public Affairs, Bldg. 461, rm. 9, or call 5678.

Have a photograph or story for the Thule Times?
Submit it to
ThuleTimes@thule.af.mil

Thule Times Editorial Staff

Col. Thomas Walker, 821st Air Base Group commander
1st Lt. Jeremy Eggers, chief, public affairs
Add your name here as a staff writer!—call PA at 5678

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